

V. *An Account of a Book entituled, Jo. Ph. Breynij, M. D. &c. Dissertatio Physica de Polythalamiiis, nova Testaceorum classe, &c. Gedani, 1732, 4<sup>to</sup>, or a Physical Dissertation of a new Class of Shells, which he styles Polythalamiums, &c. with fourteen Copper Plates. By Richard-Middleton Massey, M. D. F. R. S. and Hon. F. C. Med. Lond.*

**I**N the first Chapter he discourses of Shells in general, and premises a Method of placing them in different Classes, which he reduces to eight, *viz. Tubulus, Cochlidium, Polythalamium, Lepas, Concha, Conchoides, Balanus, and Echinus.*

The second Chapter treats of *Polythalamiums*, which he defines a Tabulous Shell divided into several Cavities, conical, straight, or regularly Spiral, with a Pipe, or Canal, passing through each Cavity. This again he subdivides into four, *viz. 1. Orthoceras, 2. Lituus, 3. Ammonia, and 4. Nautilus.*

The third Chapter treats of the *Nautilus* and *Nautilites*, which last he takes to be a Stone form'd under Ground in the Cavities of the *Nautilus*.

The fourth Chapter is of the *Ammonia* and *Ammonites*.

The fifth is of the *Lituus* (which he names from some Resemblance it has to the *Lituus*, or *Crozier*, which

which the ancient *Roman Augurs* used in their Ceremonies) and the *Lituities* or stone form'd in its Cavities under-ground. The Shell is yet unknown, but of the Stone he has given a curious Draught, as it appears in a Marble which was brought from *Oelandt*, an Island of *Sweden*.

The sixth Chapter is of the *Orthoceras* and *Orthoceratites*, or stony Concretion in its Cavity. Of these last Stones he produces nine different Species, which he distinguishes chiefly by the Pipe, or Canal, which runs through them.

In his Note concerning the *Belemnites Prussici*, of which he describes two Species, he takes notice that the stony Cone, or Nucleus of it, is never found articulate, as in those that come from *Sweden*, and some other Countries.

At the latter end of his Book he proposes a methodical Distribution of the *Echini* and *Echinites*, or Stones that are generated under Ground in the Cavities of the *Echini*.

The whole Method he proposes for ranging Shells in general, may be seen in the following Table.

*Tabula* Methodica TESTACEORUM.